

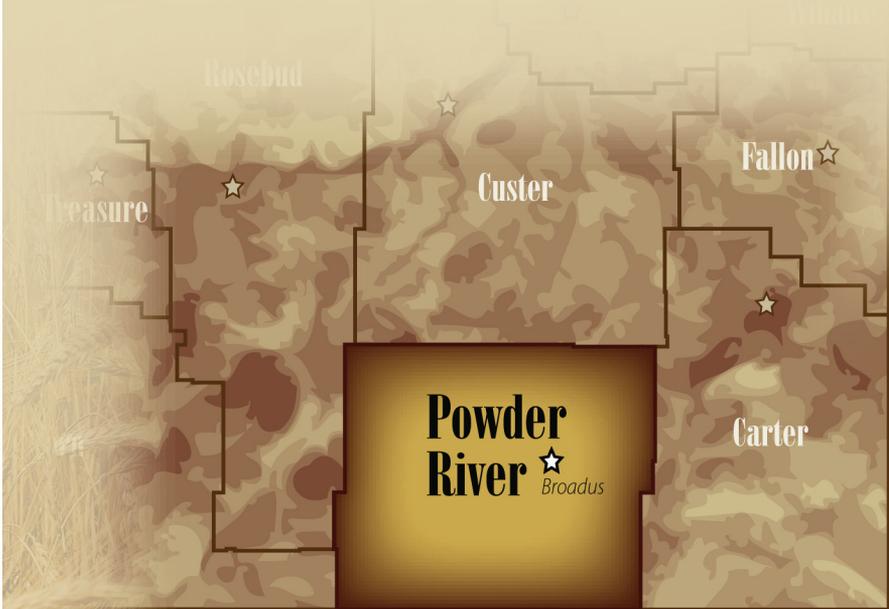
June 2012

# Montana

## COUNTY FLIERS

Economic and Demographic Information for

# POWDER RIVER COUNTY



Montana Department of  
**LABOR & INDUSTRY**  
Workforce Services Division



**Research  
Analysis &  
BUREAU**



# POWDER RIVER COUNTY

Powder River County is Montana's forty-eighth most populous county, with a population of 1,743 residents according to the 2010 Census. Broadus, the county seat, had a population of 468 in 2010.<sup>1</sup> Other cities and towns in Powder River County include Biddle, Olive, Otter, Powderville, and Sonnette.

Broadus, located near the junction of the Powder and Little Powder Rivers, is known for its cattle and oil industries. Its proximity to US Highway 212 contributes to the town's commercial and tourist business, including a variety of museums, such as the Powder River Historical Society Museum & Visitor's Center, the Powder River Taxidermy Wildlife Museum, and Mac's Museum, named for pioneer Mac McCurdy.<sup>2</sup>

Broadus also boasts Powder River Wagon Trains and Cattle Drives, Inc., which invites visitors to experience the region's past by trailing cattle through scenic southeastern Montana on horseback or covered wagons.<sup>3</sup> The Broadus area, as well as Powder River County in general, is known as a prime hunting area, especially for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, and merriam turkey.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Census Bureau, *Population Estimates Program*

<sup>2</sup>[www.visitmt.com/categories/city.asp?siteid=1&city=broadus](http://www.visitmt.com/categories/city.asp?siteid=1&city=broadus)

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup>*Broadus, Montana: A Perspective of this Hunters' Paradise*, [www.blairranch.com/broadus.htm](http://www.blairranch.com/broadus.htm)

## TOP 5 PRIVATE EMPLOYERS IN POWDER RIVER COUNTY

(Based on 2nd Quarter 2011 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

Business Name	Size Class
Alderman Oil Company	3
Broadus Motel	3
Five Star Roustabout Inc	3
Larry's IGA	4
Powder River Stockmans Club	3

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99, Class 4 = 20 to 49, Class 3 = 10 to 19.

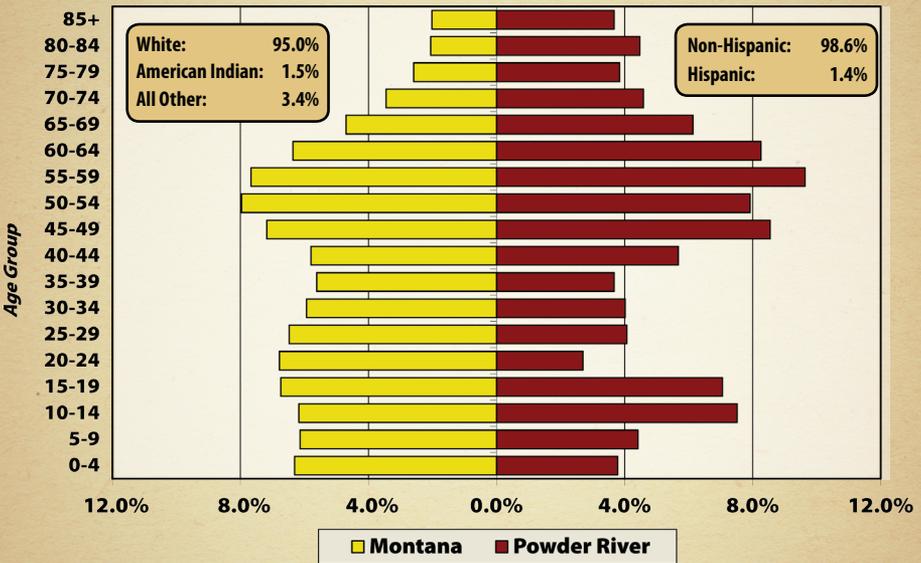
Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry, *Quarterly Census of Employment of Wages (QCEW) Program*. This list ONLY includes industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads, tribal entities, and government agencies are excluded.

**POPULATION FOR POWDER RIVER COUNTY AND RELATED AREAS**

Geography	Census 2000	2002 Estimate	2004 Estimate	2006 Estimate	2008 Estimate	Census 2010	% Change 2000-2010
Powder River County	1,858	1,822	1,759	1,743	1,693	1,743	-6.2%
Broadus town	451	495	478	474	461	468	3.8%
Balance Powder River County	1,407	1,327	1,281	1,269	1,232	1,275	-9.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

**DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE - POWDER RIVER COUNTY, 2010**



**HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (population 25 years and older)**

Educational Attainment	Powder River County	Montana	United States
Less than a High School Diploma	7.7%	8.3%	14.4%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	33.9%	29.9%	28.5%
Some College	31.0%	25.1%	21.3%
Associate's Degree	6.7%	7.9%	7.6%
Bachelor's Degree	13.2%	19.8%	17.7%
Graduate or Professional Degree	7.5%	9.0%	10.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2010 (US & MT), and 2005-2009 estimates (county)

## POWDER RIVER COUNTY - EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY ANNUAL AVERAGES 2010

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	88	450	\$21,589
TOTAL PRIVATE	70	248	\$18,134
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	2	*	*
Animal production	2	*	*
MINING	2	*	*
SUPPORT ACTIVITIES FOR MINING	2	*	*
CONSTRUCTION	10	12	\$18,046
Construction of buildings	2	*	*
Heavy and civil engineering construction	3	*	*
Specialty trade contractors	5	7	\$22,794
MANUFACTURING	1	*	*
Food manufacturing	1	*	*
WHOLESALE TRADE	1	*	*
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	1	*	*
RETAIL TRADE	12	82	\$16,828
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	1	*	*
Building material & garden supply stores	1	*	*
Food and beverage stores	1	*	*
Gasoline stations	1	*	*
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	1	*	*
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	1	*	*
General merchandise stores	1	*	*
Miscellaneous store retailers	3	*	*
Nonstore retailers	2	*	*
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	5	3	\$7,835
Truck transportation	2	*	*
Transit and ground passenger transport	2	*	*
INFORMATION	3	6	\$41,824

## POWDER RIVER COUNTY - EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY ANNUAL AVERAGES 2010 (cont.)

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
Publishing industries, except Internet	1	*	*
Telecommunications	2	*	*
FINANCE AND INSURANCE	1	*	*
Insurance carriers & related activities	1	*	*
REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING	1	*	*
Real estate	1	*	*
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	6	16	\$24,317
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	1	*	*
Administrative and support services	1	*	*
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	3	*	*
Ambulatory health care services	2	*	*
Social assistance	1	*	*
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION	9	13	\$11,293
Performing arts and spectator sports	1	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	8	*	*
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES	7	56	\$8,529
Accommodation	1	*	*
Food services and drinking places	6	*	*
OTHER SERVICES	7	19	\$16,743
Repair and maintenance	2	*	*
Personal and laundry services	1	*	*
Membership associations & organizations	4	13	\$12,315
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	18	202	\$25,836
Local Government	7	184	\$24,771
State Government	5	2	\$44,565
Federal Government	6	16	\$35,965

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program. The QCEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data, or to rounding.)

\*Data not disclosable

## AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS FOR POWDER RIVER COUNTY

	2007 Census	2002 Census	% Change
<b>FARMS</b>			
Farms: (number)	319	301	6%
Land in farms (acres)	1,620,068	1,521,618	6%
Average size of farms (acres)	5,079	5,055	0%
Median size of farms (acres)	2,041	3,600	-43%
Farms by size: (number)			
Less than 1,000 acres	120	88	36%
1,000 acres or more	199	213	-7%
Farms by value of products sold: (number)			
Less than \$100,000	196	201	-2%
\$100,000 or more	123	100	23%
Farms by type of organization: (number)			
Family, Individual, Partnership	248	260	-5%
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	71	41	73%
<b>LIVESTOCK INVENTORY AND CROPS HARVESTED</b>			
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)			
Cattle and calves	77,112	58,870	31%
Hogs and pigs	23	0	NA
Sheep and lambs	14,724	11,856	24%
Horses and ponies	1,689	1,422	19%
Bison	53	*	*
Chickens (layers and broilers)	*	228	*
Crops Harvested (acres)			
Corn for grain	0	0	NA
Corn for silage or greenchop	*	*	*
Wheat for grain, All	12,828	7,466	72%
Winter wheat for grain	10,749	3,317	224%
Spring wheat for grain	2,079	4,149	-50%
Durum wheat for grain	0	0	NA
Oats for grain	408	291	40%
Barley for grain	1,759	2,054	-14%
Hay, haylage, grass silage	91,666	44,193	107%
Sunflower seed, All	0	0	NA
<b>OPERATOR DEMOGRAPHICS</b>			
Primary occupation: (number)			
Farming	207	235	-12%
Other	112	66	70%
Place of residence: (number)			
On farm operated	256	255	0%
Not on farm operated	63	46	37%
Years on present farm: (number)			
Less than 10 years	86	91	-5%
10 years or more	233	210	11%
Age group: (number)			
Under 55 years	140	157	-11%
55 years and over	179	144	24%
Average age of operators: (number)	57.9	55.7	4%

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2007

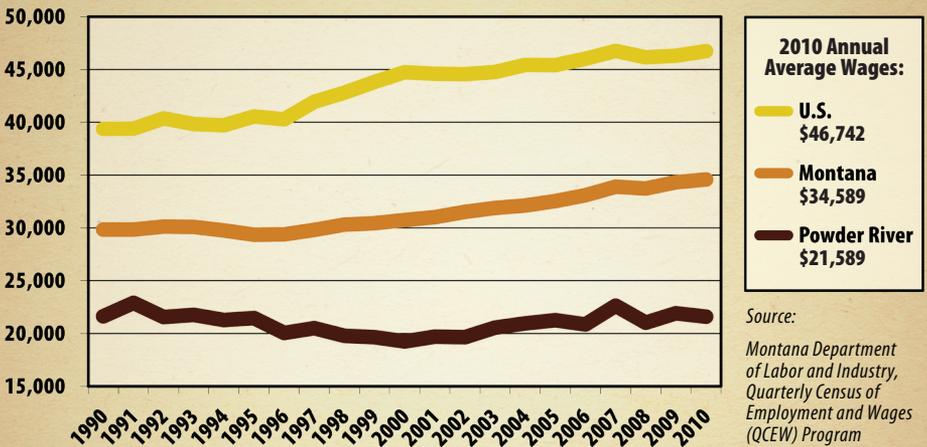
\* = Not Disclosable

**ANNUAL AVERAGE LABOR FORCE - POWDER RIVER COUNTY**

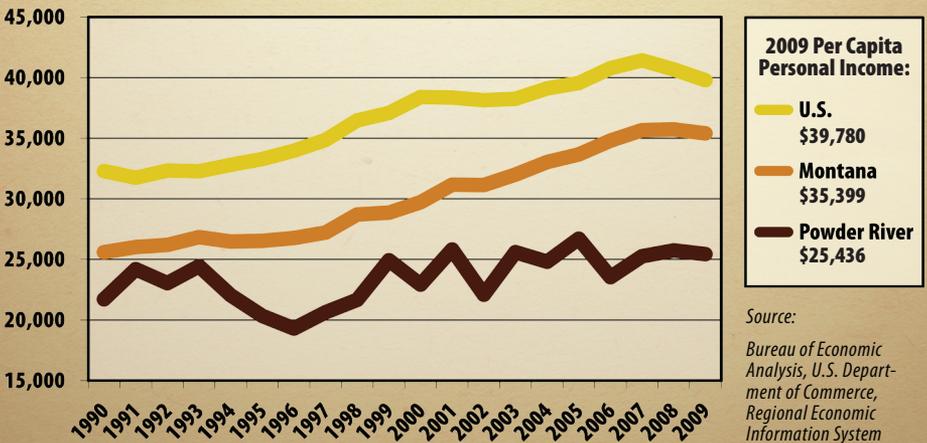
Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2010	902	864	38	4.2%
2009	895	862	33	3.7%
2008	949	919	30	3.2%
2007	897	870	27	3.0%
2006	894	867	27	3.0%
2005	907	877	30	3.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

**ANNUAL AVERAGE WAGES - POWDER RIVER COUNTY, 1990-2010**  
(In 2010 Dollars)

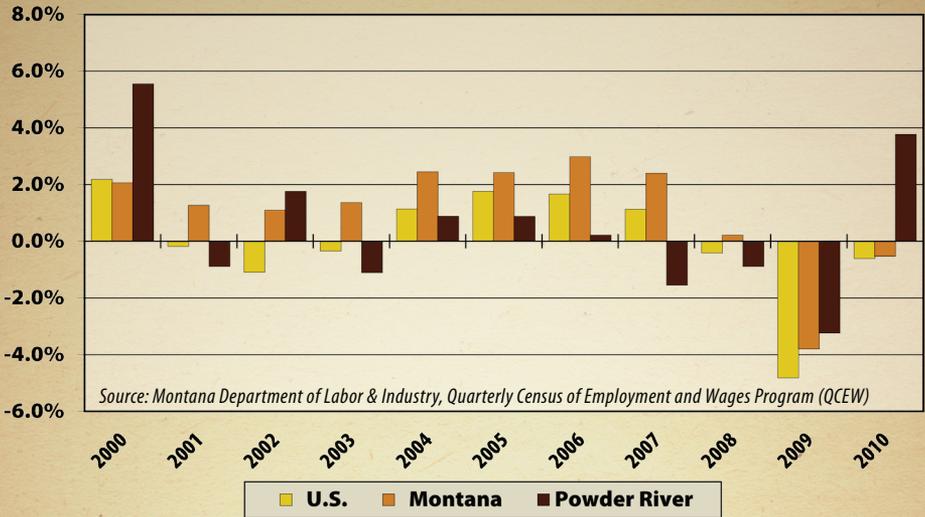


**PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - POWDER RIVER COUNTY, 1990-2009**  
(In 2010 Dollars)



## PERCENT CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT - 2000 TO 2010

(United States, Montana, and Powder River County)



## RESOURCES FOR POWDER RIVER COUNTY

### Chamber of Commerce

#### Powder River Chamber of Commerce

119 East Wilson Street  
 P. O. Box 484  
 Broadus, MT 59317  
 Ph: (406) 436-2778  
 Email: [powderriverchamber@rangeweb.net](mailto:powderriverchamber@rangeweb.net)  
<http://powderriverchamber.org>

### Newspaper

#### Powder River Examiner

106 North Park  
 Broadus, MT 59317  
 Ph: (406) 436-2244

#### Website:

<http://powderriveronline.com>  
 Email: [info@powderriveronline.com](mailto:info@powderriveronline.com)  
 131 N. Hwy 59  
 Volborg, MT 59351  
 Ph: (406) 554-3123

### Economic Development

#### MSU Extension Service - Powder River Co.

P. O. Box 200  
 101 Courthouse Square  
 Broadus, MT 59317  
 Ph: (406) 436-2424  
 Fax: (406) 436-2482  
 E-mail: [powderriver@montana.edu](mailto:powderriver@montana.edu)  
[www.msuextension.org/powderriver](http://www.msuextension.org/powderriver)

### Job Service Workforce Center

#### Miles City Job Service Workforce Center

12 North 10th Street  
 Miles City, MT 59301  
 Ph: (406) 232-8340  
 Fax: (406) 232-6270  
 Email: [MilesCityJSC@mt.gov](mailto:MilesCityJSC@mt.gov)  
[www.wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/milescity](http://www.wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/milescity)